dose of nitrogen and only one pre-monsoon and post-monsoon irrigations). Varieties are also being selected for drought, water logged and salinity conditions as well as sub marginal lands. Few varieties such as Cos 767, Bo 91, CoS 7918, Bo 109, CoLK 8001, CoLK 7901, CoLK 8102, CoPant 84211, Co 87263 and Co87268 have been released for low productivity areas.

(e) Adoption of the new varieties would help increase the earnings of the farmers in the range of Rs.5000-7000 per hectare.

[English]

Cattle Breeds

*380. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of breeds of cattle/buffalo developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research during last three years and their performance over the years;

(b) whether there has been programmes for the distribution of their progeny to farmers;

(c) if so, the areas covered under those programmes; and

(d) the justification of expenditure on the research in animal breeding at ICAR institutes vis-a-vis their output?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No new cattle/buffalo breed has been developed during last three years by ICAR.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

(d) The expenditure in animal breeding in cattle and buffalo have resulted in development of new breeds of high yielding crossbred cattle (Karan Swiss, Karan Fries, Frieswal) over the last 20 years. Programmes on improvement in cattle and buffalo have yielded technologies that resulted in early maturity, improvement in milk yield and reduction in calving interval resulting in more number of calves born. Output as evident from these new breeds and improvement in cattle and buffalo programmes fully justifies the expenditure on research.

Reviving Sick Fertiliser Units

3518. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government plan to revive the ailing Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (HFC) and Fertilizer Corporation of India together has not Worked with Marubeni Corporation of Japan interested in reviving HFC only;

(b) the reasons for Marubeni back tracking on reviving FCI;

(c) whether the Government propose to revive FCI and whether it has persuaded Marubeni to fund the package for FCI also; and

(d) if so, the estimated capital outlay involved in the revival of FCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b). The interest evinced by M/s Marubeni Corporation in participating in the rehabilitation of the two sick public sector undertakings namely, Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) was at an exploratory stage. No concrete proposal has so far emerged in this regard.

(c) and (d). In order to restore the financial health of FCI, the Government had approved, in principle, a revival package in April, 1995 which envisaged the revamp of Sindri, Ramagundam and Talcher units of FCI, entailing a fresh investment of Rs.1736.20 crore at 1994 price level, apart from the capital restructuring and financial reliefs to the undertaking. The funding arrangement for this package could not be tied up. An expert Group was thereafter constituted to reformaulate the revival package from the standpoint of funding by the Financial Institutions. The Group appointed a consultancy organisation to undertake an independent appraisal of the technical viability of the revival package from the standpoint of funding by the Financial Institutions. The consultancy organisation has since submitted its report, based on which the Group would reformalate the revival package. The final decision on its implementation would depend upon the tie up of funding arrangements and outcome of the proceedings pending before the BIFR, which is a quasi-judicial authority.

Financial Assistance for Imposing Prohibition

3519. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the existing or proposed policy of the Central Government in giving financial assistance to the State Governments which impose 'prohibition' under the Directive Principles of the Constitution in order to enable them to recover the loss in revenue on this account;

(b) the State Governments that have approached the Central Government in the matter; and

(c) the specific aid decided or is being considered to be provided to such State Governments for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c). The State Government of Andhra Pradesh had requested the Government of India to compensate them to the extent of 100% for the